

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RANGOO 00153 151009Z

17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-11

OMB-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 /070 W
----- 107704

R 150938Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 828

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, BM

SUBJECT: NE WIN'S FINAL TRIBUTE TO CHOU EN-LAI

REF: RANGOON 0134 (WEEKA 2, ITEM 1)

1. ENGLISH AND BURMESE LANGUAGE PRESS JANUARY 15 CARRIED SPECIAL BOXED ITEM FROM PRESIDENT NE WIN ENTITLED "PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI I KNEW". TEXT TOLLOWS: QUOTE PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI, ALTHOUGH THE LEADER OF A BIG COUNTRY, ALWAYS PLACED HIMSELF ON EQUAL TERMS IN ALL HIS DEALINGS WITH THE LEADERS FROM SMALLER COUNTRIES, AND SHOWED UTMOST SYMPATHY AND ACCOMMODATION IN HIS RELATIONS WITH SMALLER NATIONS ON VARIOUS ISSUES INCLUDING COMPLEX ONES. I PERSONALLY DISCOVERED THIS QUALITY DURING OUR TALKS FOR THE BURMA-CHINA BORDER DEMARCATION. I RECALL PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI MERCILESSLY IMPOSING ON HIMSELF AND SELFLESSLY SHOULDERING RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA, FOR THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE CHINESE PEOPLE, FOR UNFREE COUNTRIES, FOR THE WEAK NATIONS, FOR THE WORLD'S POOR AND THE DOWNTRODDEN. THE PASSING AWAY OF PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI IS A LOSS NOT ONLY TO CHINA BUT ALSO TO THE WHOLE WORLD. TO MAKE THE BEST OF THIS TRAGEDY, WHAT A BETTER WORLD IT WOULD BE IF ONLY THERE WERE IN THE BIG COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY IN THE SUPER POWERS, MORE LEADERS

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PAGE 02 RANGOO 00153 151009Z

AS SYMPATHETIC AND ACCOMMODATING AS THE LATE PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI.

WITH THESE LINES I PAY MY RESPECTS TO PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI ON THIS
15TH DAY OF JANUARY, THE LAST DAY OF HIS FUNERAL. WITH SAD
MEMORIES, NE WIN END QUOTE.

2. PRESS SOURCES CONFIRM THAT NE WIN WROTE THIS EULOGY HIMSELF
AS SLIGHTLY STILTED ENGLISH WOULD INDICATE. IT IS AN UNUSUAL
TRIBUTE - WE HAVE NO PREVIOUS RECORD OF THE PRESIDENT HAVING GONE
BEYOND THE CUSTOMARY CONDOLENCE MESSAGE (REFTEL) ON THE DEATH OF
FOREIGN LEADERS - AND SPEAKS FOR NE WIN'S PERSONAL ADMIRATION FOR
THE LATE PREMIER AS WELL AS THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PRC TO BURMA.

3. EMBASSY INFORMED THAT MINISTER OF INFORMATION U LWIN RECEIVED
CONDOLENCE MESSAGE TEXT FROM PRESIDENT NE WIN'S RESIDENCE IN BOTH
ENGLISH AND BURMESE ALONG WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO PRINT TEXTS EXACTLY
AS WRITTEN WITH NO ALTERATIONS OR CORRECTIONS.
HOWARTH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CONDOLENCE MESSAGES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976RANGOO00153
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760015-0452
From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760154/aaaabvng.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 RANGOON 134
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NE WIN'S FINAL TRIBUTE TO CHOU EN-LAI
TAGS: PFOR, CH, BM, (NE WIN), (CHOU EN-LAI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006